



**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Statement regarding The Beer Store located at 227 Gerrard Street East**

The Beer Store currently located at 227 Gerrard Street East will be temporarily closed and a new regular size store will be a part of a new development at the site by Stafford Developments.

The Beer Store has participated in numerous community consultations over many years regarding this store. This includes consultation with the Cabbagetown South Residents' Association (CSRA) which on its website outlines the numerous consultations since 2017 with the community <https://cabbagetownsouth.com/beer-store-re-development/>

The Beer Store is aware of community concerns regarding the local area. We are sympathetic to these concerns and believe the neighborhood and local park is *a public space that everyone should enjoy*.

The Beer Store is also sympathetic to the many difficult systemic issues that communities and individuals across Canada face such homelessness and addiction. We support Toronto Public Health, Toronto Police, and the City of Toronto and understand they have an important role in assisting the community address these issues.

The employees who work at this location also live in the community. They face the same issues that our customers and neighbors must address. That is why we have gone above and beyond our role as a business to cooperate with the community.

There have been numerous calls and meetings with community members and local politicians involving our Executives, District Manager, and multiple Store Managers (present and past). We have always been transparent with our efforts to date and have always expressed a willingness to work together

We also appreciate that many stores in the immediate area sell beer, including the LCBO and local grocery stores. We remain willing to coordinate our efforts with them and community leaders.

This store is an extremely popular store in the broader community and is used by thousands of customers each week and we look forward to re-opening a new retail store for the community.

**About the Beer Store:** The Beer Store listed 1,034 brands provided by more than 240 brewers in 2020. Over half of the brewers listed are small Ontario brewers. It is a completely open system that allows any brewer in the world to sell their brands in any store they choose. The Beer Store is deeply committed to the responsible sale and not selling to minors and intoxicated people. More than 1.8 million customers were challenged in 2020 alone. It is also one of the greenest retailers globally and collected more than 1.3 billion beer bottles in 2020 (a 77 percent return rate) and over 415 million wine and spirit containers (a 69 percent recovery rate). The Beer Store Employs 7,000 hard-working Ontarians with well-paying full- and part-time jobs.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**      [mediainquiries@thebeerstore.ca](mailto:mediainquiries@thebeerstore.ca)

To learn more about these services or other locations, visit [www.thebeerstore.ca](http://www.thebeerstore.ca) or download the Beer Store mobile app.